

**From:** Marc Infield  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/6/01 1:48pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Penalty

Hello,

I don't usually send this type letter, but here goes.

In my understanding of the ruling (which is probably not great). Microsoft essentially eliminated a competitor by using it's size and power in the market. The software I use on a daily basis is directly effected by their actions, because there is no longer any real competition for their internet browser I am forced to use it. The problem is they kill competition from the inside via hardball business practices, leaving the public no choices but to use their products.

Allowing them to "give away" software to under privileged kids, puts an awful nice spin on some pretty nasty business practices. Unfortunately it seems like DOJ is providing MS corp. with a great channel into a segment of the market that they have not been entirely able to take away from another competitor, Apple computer, a company that I am fearful MS would just assume be out business.

Shouldn't the penalty have something to do with the crime? Doesn't the idea that Microsoft has anything to with "distributing "free" software to children" sound a bit funny? It does nothing to prevent them from doing the same thing they that are accused of again, and it could be argued that it actually offers them an inroad to attack Apple in their strongest market with a flood of free hardware and software.

I am not for shutting down MS, they are a good company, but they are to big to be allowed to continue with the "buy them or ruin them" method of business.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely

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